

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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AMEMBASSY JIDDA
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AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY SANA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, IZ, YE, YS
SUBJECT: RCC STATEMENT ON THE YEMENS

REF: BAGHDAD 1421

1. REFTEL REPORTED THE CONDEMNATION OF ARAB LEAGUE
SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH YEMEN BY THE FEDERATION OF ARAB
JURISTS. IN A FOLLOW-UP, WHICH CLEARLY INDICATES THAT THE
FEDERATION'S ACTION WAS PART OF A CONSIDERED PROGRAM, THE
RCC ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON JUNE 9.

BEGIN TEXT

DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS EVENTS WENT QUICKLY AND
TRAGICALLY IN THE SOUTH AND NORTH OF YEMEN. THESE EVENTS
HAVE HAD THEIR NEGATIVE INFLUENCE ON THE BILATERAL RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, A MATTER WHICH REQUIRES THE
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ADOPTION OF A NATIONALIST AND PRINCIPLED ATTITUDE TOWARDS
THE SITUATION IN THESE TWO BROTHERLY COUNTRIES.

WE DENOUNCE THE METHOD BY WHICH PRESIDENT AHMED
HUSSEIN AL-GHASHMI WAS ASSASSINATED AND THE QUARTER
RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT, BECAUSE THIS METHOD CONTRADICTS WITH
OUR ARAB TRADITIONS AND PRINCIPLES ON WHICH RELATIONS BETWEEN

COUNTRIES ARE BASED.

AS FOR THE DEVELOPMENTS THAT TOOK PLACE IN SOUTH YEMEN, WE CONSIDERED THEM AS INTERNAL EVENTS, THE HANDLING OF WHICH IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ARAB PEOPLE IN THAT COUNTRY. THEREFORE, WE DON'T SEE ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR RECONSIDERING OUR RELATIONS WITH DEMOCRATIC YEMEN AS A BROTHERLY ARAB STATE.

HOWEVER, SOME REACTIONARY ARAB QUARTERS HAVE TRIED TO EXPLOIT THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT GHASHMI, THE EVENTS IN SOUTH YEMEN AND THE TENSE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO YEMENS, WITH THE PURPOSE OF IMPOSING COLONIAL DESIGNS IN WHICH THE ARAB NATION HAS NO INTEREST. THESE REACTIONARY QUARTERS WERE ENDEAVORING TO FLARE UP THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TWO PARTS OF YEMEN; NEITHER TO SERVE THE INTEREST OF ARAB PEOPLES IN THESE TWO COUNTRIES NOR THE INTEREST OF THE ARAB NATION.

WE SHOULD LIKE TO STATE HERE THAT IRAQ NEITHER ACCEPTS NOR SUPPORTS THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY SOME ARAB QUARTERS, AT THE MEETING HELD RECENTLY BY THE ARAB LEAGUE WHICH CALLS FOR BOYCOTTING SOUTH YEMEN. THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED WITH DISHONEST MOTIVES AND ONLY SERVES THE COLONIAL AND REACTIONARY DESIGNS WHICH THE ARAB NATION HAS NO INTEREST.

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WE CALL ON ALL ARAB BROTHERS IN THE TWO YEMENS TO ENDEAVOR TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS BETWEEN THEM THROUGH CALM DIALOGUE AND AWAY FROM TENSION AND MILITARY CONFLICT WHICH WILL BENEFIT ENEMIES OF THE ARAB NATION.

END TEXT.

2. COMMENT: SOME LOCAL OBSERVERS TEND TO INTERPRET THE STATEMENT AS A TILT TOWARD SOUTH YEMEN. IT MAY WORK OUT THAT WAY, BUT THE STATEMENT ITSELF APPEARS TO BE MORE OF A DECLARATION OF STANDARD GOI POLICY (HANDS OFF INTERNAL AFFAIRS IN LEFTWARD-LEANING COUNTRIES), A FURTHER SHOT AT COLONIAL AND REACTIONARY CIRCLES, AND A DESIRE TO OBTAIN A BIT MORE TIME TO DETERMINE POLICY WITHOUT REMAINING SILENT ANY LONGER.

3. YAR AMBASSADOR JAMIL, WHO IS APPARENTLY ENJOYING FREQUENT AND RELATIVELY HIGH-LEVEL ACCESS AT THE MFA, SAYS ALL HIS CONTACTS ARE EXPRESSING SERIOUS CONCERNS OVER EVENTS IN THE PDY AND WHAT THEY WOULD MEAN FOR IRAQ.

THE MFA DOES NOT MAKE POLICY, BUT GENERALLY REFLECTS
IT FAIRLY ACCURATELY.
PECK

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